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German Democratic Republic

DECISION OF GDR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO ASSURE FULFILLMENT OF 1953 EXPORT PLAN

annex to the protocol on the 138th session of the GDR Council of Ministers on 14 September 1953. The annex contains the text of the Council's decision on measures to be taken to assure the fulfillment of the 1953 export plan. This decision is

as follows:

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The distribution of production for export among ministries, independent state secretariats, and the Bezirk councils (for local industry), as provided in the approved 1953 export plan, is to be ascertained and submitted to the Council of Ministers by 30 September 1953. Upon being approved by the Council, it will be submitted to these authorities, which will then be responsible for fulfilling the production assigned to them. 2) By 20 September 1953, MAI (Ministry for Foreign and Intra-German Trade) will prepare a directive for the fulfillment of export orders by the ministries, independent state secretariats, and the Bezirk councils. This order will embody the following principles: Export orders have the priority of government orders. Ministers, indedpendent state secretaries, and the chairman of the Bezirk councils are responsible for the fulfillment of export orders falling within their authority. Normal regulations regarding contracting will be adhered to. Export orders for non-standard manufactures require the consent of the competent production administration. Delivery dates will be set only after definite specifications have been received. The export plan can be changed only with the consent of the Council of Ministers. The ministries, independent state secretariats, and Bezirk councils will account for export orders separately. These authorities will report monthly to MAI on the state of their export obligations, and the MAI will report on this subject monthly in writing to the Council of Ministers. 3) Ministries, independent state secretariats, and Bezirk councils are responsible for procuring the raw materials needed for the production for export orders. The MAI will be responsible for raw materials to be imported for this purpose. 4) The competent ministries, independent state secretariats, and Bezirk councils will suggest ways of modernizing and enlarging the variety of goods offered for exports. These suggestions will be reported to the Council of Ministers by the MAI quarterly, beginning on 30 September 1953. 5) Plants producing for export may use a part of their foreign-exchange earnings for the purchase abroad of necessary raw materials. Enterprises in the GDR will not have to pay excise tax on production for export. 6) MAI may hire 150 additional personnel and give them a brief training course. 7) The Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will collaborate to speed the foreign trips of GDR trade representatives and technicians to be sent abroad under provisions of trade agreements. 8) MAI will transmit to the Ministry of Railroads a transportation plan for the shipment of exports and imports planned up to the end of 1953. MAI will consult with the State Planning Commission in drawing up this plan and the Ministry of Railroads will make the necessary railroad cars available at the time stipulated in the plan.

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